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1981/06/17



CONFIDENTIAL

EXCISE

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ACTION NODS-00INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 1001 W
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FM USDEL SECRETARY AIRCRAFT
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INFO AMEMBASSY BEIJING IMMEDIATE
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NUDIS

DECAPTIONED

E.O. 12065:: GDS 6/17/87 (HAIG, ALEXANDER M.)
TAGS: OVIP (HAIG, ALEXANDER M.), CH, TW
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL PRESS CONFERENCE STATEMENT ON ARMS SALES TO
TAIWAN

DEPT PLEASE PASS WHITE HOUSE FOR THE PRESIDENT

1. (S-ENTIRE TEXT).
2. JUST AS I WAS DEPARTING BEIJING, VICE FOREIGN MINISTER
ZHANG WENJIN SPOKE TO ME PRIVATELY AT PLANESIDE:3. I EXPLAINED TO HIM THAT YOUR RESPONSE WAS THE
MINIMUM WHICH WE COULD HAVE EXPECTED UNDER CIRCUM-
STANCES WHEN A QUESTION ON THIS SUBJECT WAS PRESENTED
TO YOU DURING A PRESS CONFERENCE. I ADDED THAT I

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HOPED THEY WOULD NOT MAKE TOO MUCH OF IT. A MEMBER

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

IS/FPC/CDR TRIS Date: 12/5/96 CONFIDENTIAL

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MR Cases Only

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OF MY STAFF SAID THE SAME THING TO OTHER CHINESE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WHO HAD ACCOMPANIED ZHANG WENJIN TO THE AIRPORT.

4. THIS SHOWS THE EXTREME SENSITIVITY OF THE CHINESE ON THE ISSUE OF ARMS SALES TO TAIWAN, DESPITE THE FACT THAT YOUR POSITION HAS BEEN IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN FOR SOME TIME AND IS WELL KNOWN. I WILL BE BRIEFING THE PRESS ABOARD THE AIRCRAFT SOON AND WILL PLAY UP POSITIVE ASPECTS OF THE US-CHINESE RELATIONSHIP WHILE PUTTING ARMS SALES IN PERSPECTIVE.

HAIG

NOTE: RAISED TO NODIS PER J. BECKER, S/S-07

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